## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 EB-08 COME-00 /088 W
------110327 121758Z /53

P 121716Z JUL 78 FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4699

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E.O. 11652 N.A.
TAGS: PORG, WTO
SUBJ: FRENCH REQUEST FOR US SUPPORT FOR REELECTION
OF WTO SYG LONATI

**REF: STATE 174357** 

- 1. AS A RESULT OF THE CAMPAIGN MOUNTED BY REFTEL TO DISCOURAGE THE REELECTION OF ROBERT C. LONATI AS SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION (WTO), THE EMBASSY ANTICIPATES INQUIRIES FROM GOF AS TO WHAT IS REALLY BEHIND US DEMARCHE.
- 2. BASED ON THE ADMITTEDLY PARTIAL KNOWLEDGE OF EMBASSY MFFICERS, THE WTO HAS NVER BEEN A VERY EFFECTIVE ORGANIZATION. WHILE LONATI MAY NOT HAV SUCCEEDED IN TRANSFORMING IT--AND WHILE IMPROVEMENT MAY BE NEEDED--IT APPEARS TO US AWKWARD TO BE OPPOSING LONATI'S REELECTION WITHOUT THE US HAVING A BETTER QUALIFIED OR MORE POTENTIALLY SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE IN MIND. POINT MADE REFTEL FOR DELAYING CONSIDERATION OF CANDIDATES APPEARS VALID WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO LONATI.

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3. THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL DETAIL THE DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE ON WHY LONATI IS BEING SO STRONGLY OPPOSED, AND WHAT US POLICY CONSIDERATIONS ARE BEING ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY LONATI'S INEFFECTUALITY SO THAT WE CAN BE BETTER PREPARED TO DEFEND US POSITION WITH GOF. HARTMAN

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## Message Attributes

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Concepts: LOBBYING, PRESIDENT, TOURISM, ELECTIONS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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Subject: FRENCH REQUEST FOR US SUPPORT FOR REELECTION OF WTO SYG LONATI

TAGS: PORG, FR, US, WTO, (LONATI, ROBERT C)

To: STATE Type: TE

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